Application Serial No.: 09/870,910 Docket No. 1232-4720

Amendment to the Claims

Claims 1-29 are pending. Please amend claims 1, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 16; cancel claims 10, 11, 14 and 17-29 without prejudice or disclaimer; and add new claims 30 and 31. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~video~~ conference ~~and video telephone~~ system which includes a transmission apparatus and a reception apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ for performing communication of two audio signals of L and R channels, wherein

said transmission apparatus comprises

transmission means for transmitting data obtained by addition of the two audio signals as first audio data ~~through~~ with a first communication channel, and transmitting data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals as second audio data ~~through~~ with a second communication channel, and

notifying means for notifying whether data is transmitted with the first communication channel and the second communication channel, or with the first communication channel, and

said reception apparatus comprises

reception means for receiving the data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals as the first audio data with the first communication channel and the data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals as the second audio data with the second communication channel, control means for controlling a stop of the data with the second communication channel in accordance with a notification that the transmission apparatus transmits data with the first communication channel, and restoring means for restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the audio data received by said reception means~~,~~

~~wherein said transmission means of said transmission apparatus sets the number of channels to be used for the transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said transmission apparatus, and transmits the set number of audio channels to said reception apparatus~~.

2. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein

the first audio data represents monaural audio and the second audio data represents stereo audio,

said transmission means of said transmission apparatus transmits, according to whether an audio source of said transmission apparatus is the stereo audio or the monaural audio, a change of the audio source to said reception apparatus, and

said restoring means of said reception apparatus restores the audio signal on the basis of the first audio data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals and the second audio data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals when the audio source of said transmission apparatus is the stereo audio, and restores the audio signal on the basis of only the first audio data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals when the audio source of said transmission apparatus is the monaural audio.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said transmission means of said transmission apparatus transmits the number of audio channels of said transmission apparatus to said reception apparatus, as describing it at a source description of an RTCP (real time control protocol) packet.

4. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein said transmission means of said transmission apparatus transmits a type of audio input device of said transmission apparatus to said reception apparatus, as describing it at a source description of an RTCP packet.

5. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein each of said transmission apparatus and said reception apparatus has notification means for notifying its own capability by using a mode request message according to H.245 Standard of ITU-T (International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Standardization Sector) Recommendation.

6. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said transmission means of said transmission apparatus adjusts the number of channels to be used for the transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said transmission apparatus, and

said reception means of said reception apparatus adjusts the number of channels to be used for the reception, according to the number of channels to be used for the transmission.

7. (Currently Amended) A transmission apparatus comprising:

first generation means for generating packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels;

second generation means for generating packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

transmission means for transmitting, to a reception apparatus, the packet data generated by said first generation means ~~through~~ with a first communication channel, and transmitting the packet data generated by said second generation means ~~through~~ with a second communication channel,

wherein said ~~transmission means of said transmission apparatus sets the number of channels to be used for the transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said transmission apparatus, and transmits the set number of audio channels~~; and

notifying means for notifying whether data is transmitted with the first communication channel and the second communication channel, or with the first communication channel.

8. (Currently Amended) A reception apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving, from a transmission apparatus, packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and/or packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

control means for controlling a stop of data with the second communication channel in accordance with a notification that a transmission apparatus transmits data with the first communication channel; and

restoring means for restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received by said reception means~~,~~

~~wherein said reception means sets the number of channels to be used for a communication, according to the kind of audio source of said communication~~.

9. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said restoring means restores a stereo audio signal on the basis of the packet data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals and the packet data obtained by the subtraction of the two audio signals when stereo audio is restored, and restores a monaural audio signal on the basis of only the packet data obtained by the addition of the two audio signals when monaural audio is restored.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A communication method of a transmission apparatus, comprising:

a first generation step of generating packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels;

a second generation step of generating packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

a transmission step of transmitting, to a reception apparatus, the packet data generated in said first generation step through a first communication channel, and transmitting the packet data generated in said second generation step through a second communication channel;

~~wherein said transmission step of said communication method sets the number of channels to be used for a transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said transmission, and transmits the set number of audio channels~~ ; and

a notifying step of notifying whether data is transmitted with the first communication channel and the second communication channel, or with the first communication channel.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication method of a reception apparatus, comprising:

(a) a step of receiving, from a transmission apparatus, packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and/or packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

(b) a step of controlling a stop of data with the second communication channel in accordance with a notification that a transmission apparatus transmits data with the first communication channel; and

~~(b)~~ (c) a step of restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received in said reception step (a)~~,~~

~~wherein said step of receiving packet data includes setting the number of channels to be used for a communication, according to the kind of audio source of said communication~~.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A recording medium which stores a program to cause a computer to execute following procedures:

the first generation procedure of generating packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels;

the second generation procedure of generating packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

the transmission procedure of transmitting, to a reception apparatus, the packet data generated in said first generation procedure through a first communication channel, and transmitting the packet data generated in said second generation procedure through a second communication channel;

~~wherein said transmission procedure sets the number of channels to be used for a transmission, according to the kind of audio source of said transmission, and transmits the set number of audio channels~~ ; and

the notification procedure of notifying whether data is transmitted with the first communication channel and the second communication channel, or with the first communication channel.

16. (Currently Amended) A recording medium which stores a program to cause a computer to execute following procedures:

(a) the procedure of receiving, from a transmission apparatus, packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and/or packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals; ~~and~~

(b) the procedure of controlling a stop of data with the second communication channel in accordance with a notification that a transmission apparatus transmits data with the first communication channel; and

~~(b)~~ (c) the procedure of restoring the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received in said reception procedure (a)~~;~~

~~wherein said procedure of receiving packet data includes a procedure for setting the number of channels to be used for a communication, according to the kind of audio source of said communication.~~

17-29. (Canceled)

30. (New) A transmission apparatus comprising:

a first generation unit adapted to generate packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels;

a second generation unit adapted to generate packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals;

a transmission unit adapted to transmit, to a reception apparatus, the packet data generated by said first generation unit with a first communication channel, and transmit the packet data generated by said second generation unit with a second communication channel; and

a notifying unit adapted to notify whether data is transmitted with the first communication channel and the second communication channel, or with the first communication channel.

31. (New) A reception apparatus comprising:

a reception unit adapted to receive, from a transmission apparatus, packet data obtained by addition of two audio signals of L and R channels and/or packet data obtained by subtraction of the two audio signals;

a control unit adapted to control a stop of data with the second communication channel in accordance with a notification that a transmission apparatus transmits data with the first communication channel; and

a restoring unit adapted to restore the audio signal by performing an arithmetic operation on the basis of the packet data received by said reception unit.